

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 04969 241531Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
AID-05 DOE-15 SOE-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HA-05 /096 W
-----039701 242007Z /70

R 241505Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8023
INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRASILIA 4969

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, BR
SUBJECT: GEISEL ANNOUNCES CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM PACKAGE

REF: BRASILIA 4087 (NOTAL)

1. CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM PACKAGE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED
BY PRESIDENT GEISEL WAS FORMALLY DELIVERED TO HIM BY ARENA
NATIONAL DIRECTORATE MORNING JUNE 23. IN 20-MINUTE ADDRESS
CARRIED EVENING JUNE 23 OVER NATIONWIDE RADITO-TV HOOKUP,
GEISEL OUTLINED MAIN POINTS OF PACKAGE, WHICH IS
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CONSTRUCTED ALONG LINES REPORTED REFTEL.

2. THERE ARE TWO IMPORTANT DIFFERENCES, HOWEVER:
A) AS ANNOUNCED BY GEISEL AND AS CONFIDED EARLIER TO
AMBASSADOR BY PACKAGE ARCHITECT SENATOR PORTELLA, HABEAS
CORPUS IS TO BE REINSTATED IN FULL FOR "POLITICAL CRIMES
AGAINST THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC

ORDER"; AND B) GEISEL DID NOT MENTION THE DATE THE REFORMS--WHICH, WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS NEXT WEEK--ARE TO BECOME EFFECTIVE. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, THAT DATE HAS CONSISTENTLY BEEN SAID TO BE THE MARCH 15, 1979 INAUGURATION OF THE NEXT PRESIDENT. WITHIN THE PAST FEW DAYS, HOWEVER, WIDESPREAD SPECULATION THAT DATE WOULD BE ADVANCED TO JANUARY 1, 1979, HAS BEEN FED BY COMMENTS TO PRESS ON TWO CONSECUTIVE DAYS BY PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE FIGUEIREDO TO EFFECT THAT, "IN HOMAGE TO GEISEL", HE IS SEEKING TO PERSUADE PRESIDENT TO ACCEPT JANUARY 1 DATE SO THAT HE CAN END HIS GOVERNMENT UNDER AEGIS OF REFORMS TOWARDS WHICH HE HAS WORKED SO HARD.

3. GEISEL ALSO INDICATED ADDITIONAL CHANGES ARE IN PROSPECT, E.G., REVISION OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY LAW.

4. FULL REPORT WILL FOLLOW IN SUBSEQUENT MESSAGES.
SAYRE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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